

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Toshimasa Kawai, et al. **Examiner:** Unassigned
Serial No: 10/620,236 **Art Unit:** Unassigned
Filed: July 15, 2003 **Docket:** 16843
For: APPARATUS FOR TRACTION **Dated:** December 19, 2003
POSITIONAL CONTROL

Mail Stop Missing Parts
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, it is requested that the following references, which are also listed on the attached Form PTO-1449, be made of record in the above-identified case.

1. Japanese Patent Application Laid-open No. 2000-300511, published October 31, 2000 together with an English language abstract;
2. Japanese Patent Application Laid-open No. H6-22904, published February 1, 1994 together with an English language abstract;
3. Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 9-10172, published January 14, 1997 together with an English language abstract; and
4. Japanese Patent Publication No. S63-59329, published November 18, 1988 together with an English language translation of claims 1-5.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop Missing Parts, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on December 19, 2003.

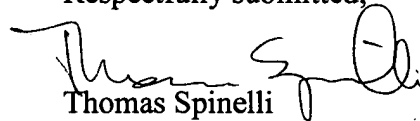
Dated: December 19, 2003


Thomas Spinelli

Applicants are submitting copies of the above-cited references together with English language abstracts for references 1-3. An English language translation of claims 1-5 is being submitted herewith for reference 4. In addition, references 1-3 were cited in an International Search Report issued in the corresponding PCT application and the relevance of references 1, 2 and 4 have been discussed in the specification.

Inasmuch as this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted in accordance with the schedule set out in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), no statement or fee is required.

Respectfully submitted,


Thomas Spinelli
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| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i> | Docket Number (Optional) 16843 | Application Number 10/620,236 |
| | Applicant(s) Toshimasa Kawai, et al. | |
| | Filing Date July 15, 2003 | Group Art Unit Unassigned |

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| *EXAMINER INITIAL | REF | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE |
|----------------------|-----|-----------------|------|------|-------|----------|-------------------------------|
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| | REF | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | Translation | |
|--|-----|-----------------|------------|---------|-------|----------|-------------|----|
| | | | | | | | YES | NO |
| | | 2000-300511 | 10/31/2000 | Japan | | | ✓ | |
| | | H6-22904 | 2/1/1994 | Japan | | | ✓ | |
| | | 9-10172 | 1/14/1997 | Japan | | | ✓ | |
| | | S63-59329 | 11/18/1988 | Japan | | | ✓ | |
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OTHER DOCUMENTS *(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)*

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| EXAMINER | DATE CONSIDERED |
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EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP Section 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.